

The Story of Three Men: Two Failed, One Passed When an Angel Came as a Man

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Islamic Stories -

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Chapter 1: Divine Trials and Human Responses

A Test Among the People of Bani Israel:

Among the people of Bani Israel, there lived three men—one afflicted with leukoderma, another bald, and the third blind.

Each endured immense hardship and social exclusion.

One day, an angel descended in the form of a stranger, sent by Allah to test them.

The Afflicted Man: A Life of Isolation

The angel, still disguised as a stranger, first approached the man suffering from leukoderma. Observing his distressed appearance, he began the exchange.

The Plea for Healing:

Angel (as Stranger Man):

"What troubles you so deeply?"

Leukoderma Man:

"Yes, I am in great distress. May Allah remove these marks from my face. I wish to sit among people with dignity and earn a respectable livelihood. That would suffice for me."

The angel prayed for him, and Allah healed his condition. He was granted a she-camel, whose offspring multiplied until he possessed a vast herd. His wealth elevated him among the prosperous.

The Bald Man: A Quest for Respect

Next, the angel visited the man who was bald. Still in the form of a stranger, he noticed the man's troubled look and posed the same question.

The Desire for Restoration:

Angel (as Stranger Man):

"What is it that causes you grief?"

Bald Man:

"I suffer because of my baldness and my failing business."

Angel (as Stranger Man):

"May Allah bless you with beautiful hair and grant you success in your trade."

The angel prayed for him. Soon, the man's scalp was covered with thick hair. He was given a cow, and over time his cattle multiplied, making him wealthy.

The Blind Man: A Longing for Sight

Finally, the angel, still disguised as a stranger, encountered the blind man. Watching him stumble along the path, he approached with compassion.

The Cry of a Blind Soul:

Angel (as Stranger Man):

"What burden weighs on your life?"

Blind Man:

"I stumble through life, begging from others. Pray that Allah restores my vision."

The angel offered a prayer, and Allah restored his sight. He was given a goat, whose offspring multiplied. He, too, joined the ranks of the prosperous.

Chapter 2: The Return of the Examiner

Pride Before the Fall:

Years passed. The three men, once helpless and poor, became influential and rich.

They were now known as “Rich Men.” Their lives overflowed with luxury, servants, and pride.

But in their prosperity, they forgot their origins.

Then one day, the angel returned—this time in the form of a poor man—to complete their test.

The Denial of the Formerly Afflicted:

The angel, now disguised as a poor man, approached the man who had once suffered from leukoderma.

A Reminder of Origins:

Angel (as Poor Man):

"I am destitute. Once, you had nothing, and Allah gave you everything. Grant me something in His name."

Leukoderma Man:

"How dare you claim I was ever poor? My grandfather was rich, my father was rich, and I was born with a golden spoon. Don't insult my lineage."

The angel invoked:

Angel (as Poor Man):

"Then may Allah return you to your original state."

Immediately, his disease returned. His camels died, and his wealth disappeared.

The Businessman's Rejection:

The angel, still in the form of a poor man, then approached the man who had once been bald.

The Arrogance of Self-Made Wealth:

Angel (as Poor Man):

"I am in need. Allah granted you riches when you had nothing. Help me, in His name."

Bald Man:

"Do not insult me. I am a self-made businessman. Every penny is the result of hard work. Nothing came from heaven. I earned it all."

The angel declared:

Angel (as Poor Man):

"Then may Allah return you to your original state."

His hair vanished, his cows perished, and his fortune faded.

Chapter 3: Gratitude Preserved

The Humble Acceptance:

Lastly, the angel—still disguised as a poor man—approached the man who had once been blind.

The Soul That Remembered:

Angel (as Poor Man):

"I am in need. Allah gave you sight and wealth when you had nothing. Help me in His name."

Blind Man:

"You speak the truth. I was blind and wandered in misery. A man once prayed for me, and Allah restored my vision. Everything I own is from my Lord."

Moved by his humility, he added:

Blind Man:

"My flock stands before you. Take what you please. I shall not forget my past."

The angel revealed his identity and the divine nature of his test.

The Divine Reward:

Angel (as Poor Man):

"Congratulations. I am a messenger from Allah, sent to test three men. Two forgot their origins, and Allah withdrew His blessings. But you remembered. May your honour and wealth increase."

The blind man remained among the most honoured and prosperous individuals of Bani Israel, his gratitude preserving his blessings.